

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus arranged for providing drive-off security in a motor vehicle environment through blocking one or more vehicle engine system subfunctions, said apparatus comprising:

a detection circuit detecting an unauthorized system activation;[[, and]]

an on-off control circuit pertaining to and controlling a fuel pump arrangement functionality means, said on-off control circuit being configured to electronically start the fuel pump arrangement at an attempted starting of the motor vehicle and being triggered to electronically switch off the fuel pump after the attempted starting when said detection circuit detects that the attempted starting was unauthorized;

wherein said detection circuit is disposed between the on-off control circuit and the fuel pump arrangement functionality means, wherein said detection circuit determines whether a pre-established code word is received from a drive-off security electronic circuit, said on-off control circuit being triggered to electronically switch off the fuel pump arrangement functionality means if no code word or an erroneous code word is received.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said on-off control circuit is physically arranged in ~~the~~ an immediate vicinity of a fuel tank of the motor vehicle.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said on-off control circuit is physically integrated with one of a fuel tank or a fuel pump element of the motor vehicle.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said drive-off security circuit further encompasses at least one of start means inhibition, spark means inhibition, and fuel injection means inhibition facilities.

6. (Currently Amended) A motor vehicle comprising an apparatus arranged for providing drive-off security through blocking one or more vehicle engine system subfunctions, said apparatus comprising:

a detection circuit detecting an unauthorized system activation;[[, and]]

an on-off control circuit pertaining to and controlling a fuel pump arrangement functionality means, said on-off control circuit being configured to electronically start the fuel pump arrangement at an attempted starting of the motor vehicle and being triggered to electronically switch off the fuel pump after the attempted starting when said detection circuit detects that the attempted starting was unauthorized;

wherein said detection circuit is disposed between the on-off control circuit and the fuel pump arrangement functionality means, wherein said detection circuit determines whether a pre-established code word is received from a drive-off security electronic circuit, said on-off control circuit being triggered to electronically switch off the fuel pump arrangement functionality means if no code word or an erroneous code word is received.

7. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said detection circuit includes a central processing unit having an EEPROM for storing operational characteristics.

8. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the operational characteristics comprise at least one of digitized curves, a number of past errors associated with drive-off prevention and sequencing information for engine and control functions.

9. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the detection circuit includes a watchdog block which receives a watchdog signal from a central processing unit of the detection circuit, the watch dog block outputting a failure signal for visual display or signaling purposes.

10. (New) The motor vehicle as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the detection circuit includes a central processing unit having an EEPROM for storing operational characteristics.

11. (New) The motor vehicle as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the operational characteristics comprise at least one of digitized curves, a number of past errors associated with drive-off prevention and sequencing information for engine and control functions.

12. (New) The motor vehicle as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the detection circuit includes a watchdog block which receives a watchdog signal from a central processing unit of the detection circuit, the watch dog block outputting a failure signal for visual display or signaling purposes.

13. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein at least the on-off control circuit and the detection circuit comprise part of tank electronics physically joined with the fuel pump as a subassembly.

14. (New) The motor vehicle as claimed in Claim 6, wherein at least the on-off control circuit and the detection circuit comprise part of tank electronics physically joined with the fuel pump as a subassembly.